



MS Social Studies

September 14, 2007

Dear RMDS Families,

We are off to a fantastic start this year at RMDS! The students have been back for less than two weeks and already we are establishing a healthy mix of work, play and friendship. I am constantly amazed at how welcoming and accepting the students are here, and this year is no different, as our new students seem to be making the transition to their new school environment with relative ease.

In Social Studies, the 5th and 6th grade are just beginning their study of human evolution and learning about humankind's brief existence on the planet in the context of our Earth's several billion year history. Evolution is a particularly fun unit, and I suspect more than a few students might be considering a career in archaeology before long!

The 7th and 8th graders are off to a great start as well, and seem eager to jump headfirst into our study of Ancient Greece. Between mythology, performing and visual arts, philosophers, sporting events, military innovation, and democratic government, we will certainly be busy in the weeks—if not months!—ahead.

Most of all, I want to express how impressed I am with level of maturity, both social and academic, that the students are displaying so early in the school year. I am excited to be back in the swing of things, and I have high hopes for '07-'08!

Sincerely,

David Beitchman